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1. At a planning conference held at the DDR Ministry of Industry on 20 September 1950, Grosse, head of Hauptabteilung Maschinenbau und Elektrotechnik, announced that he had received urgent instructions from the DDR Ministry of the Interior for the production of:
 - (a) 5,000 gas masks as a trial order (which would be followed by further large-scale orders); and
 - (b) DM (ost) 3,000,000 worth of field canteens, spades and cooking utensils.
2. It was announced that the gas mask assignment would be given to the Geithainer Emaillier-und Stanzwerke (VVB-THEMA) in Geithain, Saxony, which would have to postpone all its other contracts. Grosse then exhibited a sample gas mask, which appeared to be of the standard Wehrmacht pattern. He said that when he spoke of "gas masks" he was now referring to the filters; in the sample which was passed around for examination, the filter was of metal painted gray-green. It was not possible to estimate the thickness of the filter itself, but a sheet of mat textile material which smelled of an alkaline solution was visible at each end. Behind this appeared to be fine-gauge metal mesh, characterized by a pattern of dark stripes, viz: 
Grosse menti ned that this filter could be used for one hour only and would then have to be replaced. It could not be treated for further use.
3. It was finally agreed that the necessary materials for these filters should be allotted to the Geithain firm on 25 September. Kabelwerk Oberspree was to provide the fine copper wire and the Stanz-und Drahtwebwerke Heerbrandt (VVB-THEMA) in Raguhn was to weave it. It was not finally decided who should provide the metal, but the Eisenhüttenwerk, Thale, was considered the most likely source of supply.

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